

✓ 12/31/00

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the first source flow end point, the first destination flow end point, the second source flow end point and the second destination flow end point reside on the same node.
5. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the second source flow end point, the first destination flow end point, the third source flow end point and the fourth destination flow end point reside on the same node.
6. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the first source flow end point, the second source flow end point, the third source flow end point, the fourth source flow end point, the first destination flow end point, the second destination flow end point, the third destination flow end point and the fourth destination flow end point reside on the same node.
54. An article of manufacture according to claim 52, wherein at least two of the first source flow end point, the second destination flow end point, the third destination flow end point and the fourth source flow end point reside on the same node.

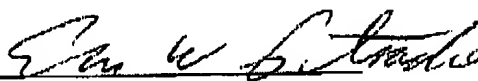
REMARKS

The accompanying amendment is believed to satisfy the Examiner's objection that not all of the various end points reside on the same node.

For the foregoing reasons, allowance of the claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the first source flow end point, the second destination flow end point, the third destination flow end point and the fourth source flow end point ~~all~~ reside on the same node.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the first source flow end point, the first destination flow end point, the second source flow end point and the second destination flow end point ~~all~~ reside on the same node.
5. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the second source flow end point, the first destination flow end point, the third source flow end point and the fourth destination flow end point ~~all~~ reside on the same node.
6. A method according to claim 1, wherein at least two of the first source flow end point, the second source flow end point, the third source flow end point, the fourth source flow end point, the first destination flow end point, the second destination flow end point, the third destination flow end point and the fourth destination flow end point ~~all~~ reside on the same node.
54. An article of manufacture according to claim 52, wherein at least two of the first source flow end point, the second destination flow end point, the third destination flow end point and the fourth source flow end point ~~all~~ reside on the same node.